

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/014,569

Examiner

Andrew H. Lam

Applicant(s)

MANTELL ET AL.

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-35.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 December 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



DAVID MOORE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

Reasons for Allowance

The application has been examined.

Claims 1-35 are presented here for examination.

Claims 1-35 are allowed over prior art of record.

Claims 1-35 are allowed because the prior art singularly or in combination does not teach an override mode, and in the presence of the override mode, rendering the color image without implementation of page cost reduction, and in the absence of the override mode, rendering the color image with implementation page cost reduction.

The closest prior art Kim, US Patent No. 6,236,817, provides " a toner consumption saving mode selector for selecting one of the non-toner saving mode and the toner saving mode" (col. 6, lines 22-25). Kim further teaches "black developer is used as a substitute for color developer, and said black developer corresponds to a common concentration value included in each of the primary colors " (col. 6, lines 26-29).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew H. Lam whose telephone number is (571) 272-8569. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30-6:00).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should be changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Dudley on July 19th, 2005.

Amend the following:

- Claims

18. (Currently amended) An image rendering ~~device~~ system wherein images rendered are represented in the device by color element specifications, the color element specifications each having associated therewith colorant-dependent cost factors for printing, and wherein a threshold printing cost may be set, the system comprising: an input operative to receive a color image having color element specifications; a counting module operative to determine at least one colorant amount of the color image; a cost determination module operative to calculate an actual printing cost for the image based on the colorant amount and the respective colorant-dependent cost factor; a threshold switch operative to determine whether and to what extent the actual printing cost exceeds the threshold printing cost; an image processing unit operative, upon a determination that the actual printing cost exceeds the threshold printing cost, to reduce the colorant amount to be used in rendering the color image according to a colorant amount reduction technique so as to provide a modified color image; a print engine

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operative to print the modified color image when present, and if not, the color image; wherein at least one of the cost determination module and the image processing unit is responsive to the presence of an optional override mode, and in the presence of the override mode causes the color image to be rendered without implementation of page cost reduction, and in the absence of the override mode causes the modified color image to be rendered thereby affording a reduction in page cost.

24. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ system as set forth in claim 18 wherein the colorant amount reduction technique is selectably configured according to input data.

25. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ system as set forth in claim 18 wherein the presence of the override mode is controlled in conjunction with use of a permission device.

35. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ system as set forth in claim 27 wherein the presence of the override mode is controlled in conjunction with use of a permission device.

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